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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

Sept. 4, 1984
Select 6

news

HARRY READ, Director of Information and Publications (217) 581-2820
FOR THURSDAY RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--President Stanley Rives told the Illinois Board of Higher Education (BHE) Wednesday (Sept. 5) that "Eastern Illinois University is an extremely cost-effective University."

"We educate students at \$25 per credit hour less than the statewide average cost," Rives said.

For emphasis, the president told Board members meeting on campus, "let me say the same thing another way: Eastern educates 6.1 percent of the fulltime equivalent students enrolled in the senior public universities with 3.6 percent of the funds appropriated."

Rives said BHE studies have "consistently demonstrated a relative level of underfunding for Eastern . . . I shall continue to seek your support for remedy of this condition."

Eastern is doing its job well, Rives stated, "and we are proud of our tradition and reputation where faculty teach students in relatively small classes conducive to individual attention."

As an example of how well Eastern is doing its job, the president said, a major foundation has selected the University as a site for study of undergraduate education. Conducting the study at 30 universities will be the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

In briefly tracing the history of the University, Rives noted that Eastern will observe the 90th anniversary of its founding next spring. Classes began in 1899 with one building (Old Main) on 40 acres, fifteen faculty members, three administrators, and 125 students.

Weekly room and board rates were \$2.25; tuition and fees totaled \$9, and the annual operating budget was \$35,000.

ADD 1

In concluding, Rives cited his three major goals for Eastern:

Continued improvement in the already excellent quality of the academic programs;

Continued stability in enrollment;

And, continued progress in improving the resource base.